



VISN 3 Mission Statement 1-1-2013

The mission of the VISN 3 MIRECC is to enhance the recovery of Veterans with the SMI diagnoses of *Schizophrenia*, *Bipolar Disorder*, and *Borderline Personality Disorder*, by focusing on 4 psychological domains that are essential to healthy functioning. These are reality testing, cognitive function, affective processing, and aggression /impulse regulation. We will apply clinically oriented neuroscience and genomic research, new forms of assessment, clinical interventions and health service interventions to promote the mental health wellness that Veterans deserve.

Definitions

- SMI is Serious Mental Illness
- Reality testing is the ability to tell the difference between perceptions arising from within from those arising from outside and leads to the problem of psychosis.
- Cognitive function is the ability to acquire and retain new information and to think clearly, coherently, and effectively; difficulty with these functions is called cognitive impairment.
- Affective processing is experiencing a full range of emotions with the ability to manage intense emotion and to have emotional stability and problems with this are called affective lability.
- Aggression/impulse regulation is the abilities to respond to emotions effectively, at a chosen time and to be productively assertive about one's needs; impairment in this realm is the problem of impulse regulation.